

MAIL PIECE VERIFICATION SYSTEM
HAVING FORENSIC ACCOUNTING CAPABILITY

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A mail piece verification system for processing mail pieces having
 5 associated therewith respective mail piece data. The system includes a
 plurality of postage metering systems for preparing mail pieces, a plurality of
 mail processing centers for receiving mail pieces and obtaining the respective
 mail piece data and a data center means in operative communication with the
 plurality of postage metering systems and the plurality of mail processing
 10 centers, the data center means including a plurality of account files
 corresponding to the plurality of postage metering systems. The data center
 means stores reset data in each of the plurality of account files representative
 of reset activity associated with the plurality of postage metering systems,
 respectively, receives respective mail piece data corresponding to the mail
 15 pieces from the plurality of mail processing centers, uses the respective mail
 piece data, storing empirical data in each of the plurality of account files
 representative of mailing activity associated with the plurality of postage
 metering systems, respectively, and conducts a forensic accounting analysis
 of the empirical data and the reset data associated with a selected postage
 20 metering system.